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## Rodeschin says 'no way' on amendment

By AARON ALDRIDGE  
Staff Writer

Two local representatives have introduced an amendment to a Senate bill that would allow Sullivan County to finance its budget deficit for up to five years while another local representative strongly

objects to the move.

"What my concern is this allows deficit spending," Rep. Beverly Rodeschin, R-Newport, said.

Co-sponsored by Rep. Peter Franklin, D-Newport, and Rep. Sue Gottling, D-Sunapee, the amendment to SB 508 will give the county the authority to finance an accumulated general fund deficit from fiscal 2008 for

between one and five years.

Gottling said the amendment will not allow deficit spending, but will instead allow the county the ability to restore a fund balance.

"We felt there was no way in law to raise money so that you can begin to restore a fund balance," Gottling said. "This money could not be used for anything other

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than a fund balance."

Franklin was contacted, but refused to comment on the amendment over the phone.

Rodeschin said she does not believe there needs to be a law to allow the repayment of a deficit over an extended period of time.

"I don't want it a law," Rodeschin said. "I don't believe we need a law."

Sullivan County posted a \$2.5 million deficit for fiscal 2007. The proposed budget by the county commission would repay that deficit over a period of three years beginning in fiscal 2009.

*Aaron Aldridge can be reached at (800) 545-0347 ext. 139, or by e-mail at [aaldridge@eagletimes.com](mailto:aaldridge@eagletimes.com).*